UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS AND ITS EMPLOYEE WELFARE PLAN.

Plaintiffs,

Case No. 15-cv-13708

- V -

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF

HONORABLE DAVID M. LAWSON

MICHIGAN,

WITNESS.

____/

DEPOSITION OF GINA DAHLKE

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff:

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For the WITNESS:

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Also Present: Michelle Heikka.

Little River Band in-house counsel

Reported by: Teri L. Heacock, RPR/CRR/CSR-2309

- marketplace. And with the subsidies and such if they
- qualify, if they're low income enough, they could qualify
- for subsidies. So some of them are just not aware, so we
- 4 just try to encourage them to sit down with Theresa or
- 5 Roberta and see what their options are.
- **6** \mathbf{Q}_{ullet} Do you currently have to pay any sort of biweekly premium
- or monthly premium to participate in your Priority Health
- 8 plan?
- 9 A. No, I don't.
- 10 Q. Who pays for that?
- 11 A. The Tribe.
- 12 Q. Did the Tribe also pay for your health coverage before you
- were on the Priority Health plan?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. 100 percent of it?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. When you testified earlier about you try to get the
- 18 Medicare Like Rate. What did you mean by that?
- 19 A. We -- if they're hospital claims, we submit those for
- 20 repricing.
- **Q.** What do you mean repricing?
- 22 A. For -- to get -- they're repriced at Medicare rates for
- Native Americans. That's what we -- we use. The Native
- Americans are allowed Medicare Like Rates at hospitals.
- That's what we do.

- we would save. And so with the health director at the
- time, her and I discussed, you know, should we try this,
- 3 should we not. Because at the time we had no monies for
- 4 any kind of software repricing for Medicare Like Rates, and
- 5 we -- I had no clue how to start -- billing was not my
- thing. So, um, so we said, okay, yeah, what have we got to
- lose? It's a free coupon for ten of 'em. And so we
- 8 contacted Forest County and, then we got their fax
- 9 information, and then they told us what they required us to
- send over, and they would reprice them and send them back,
- and that's what happened. I think we sent seven that fall.
- 12 Seven of our largest ones that I could remember or pull
- 13 that were -- of people who had no insurance. That's what
- 14 we sent first.
- 15 Q. Have you ever sent to them claims for people that did have
- insurance?
- 17 A. Not 'til later.
- 18 Q. And when you say not until later, what do you mean?
- 19 A. Um, not for a couple years later.
- **20 Q.** Do you know why?
- 21 A. Because we did not -- we weren't aware that Medicare Like
- Rates also applied to native people in the PRC program that
- also had a primary insurance.
- **Q.** What do you mean by that?
- 25 A. That means that if they had Priority Health or ASC or Blue

- 1 Cross, that you could still submit the claim for Medicare
- 2 Like Rates and pay whatever was cheaper, pay the lesser
- 3 amount.
- 4 Q. Let's take your participation in Priority Health at the
- 5 present time.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. Does, to your knowledge, Priority Health pay claims at the
- 8 Medicare Like Rate because you're a tribal descendant?
- 9 MR. WALTERS: Object to foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I don't know.
- 11 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 12 Q. Have you ever inquired?
- 13 A. No.
- ${f Q}$. Have you ever seen an EOB from a medical provider other
- than the clinic that was, for example, Priority Health?
- 16 A. Yes.
- ${f Q}$. And is it safe to say that you have an understanding as to
- 18 what Medicare Like Rates are for services provided because
- you're able to tell whether or not a Medicare Like Rate was
- or was not applied?
- MR. WALTERS: Object to form and foundation.
- THE WITNESS: Not by looking at it, no. I --
- billing is not my thing, so I can't just look at a claim and
- say, oh, yeah, that was already repriced. I would have no
- idea. The only way I -- Forest County reprices them, and it

- sends back an explanation of the repricing. If it was just
- came from -- if it just came directly from Blue Cross or
- Priority Health, I would have no clue, because I don't know
- 4 what the hospital's market rates are, what their open market
- is, and then what Priority Health or Blue Cross, Oh, no, you
- 6 have to reprice that at this rate. No idea.
- **7** BY MR. HUBBARD:
- ${f Q}$. So how do you find that out, as to whether or not Medicare
- 9 Like Rate was actually applied or not?
- 10 A. I would submit it to Forest County, and they reprice it.
- ${f Q}$. So -- and that currently includes claims where there's a
- primary insurer?
- 13 A. Correct. Now we do, yes.
- 14 Q. And remind me when that process started to take place.
- 15 A. For primary insurance?
- 16 Q. Yes, in Forest County.
- 17 A. I can't be for certain. I'm going to say maybe around
- 18 2014, sometime in that year. I'm just -- it's all kind of
- 19 a --
- MR. HUBBARD: Is there a reason, Mr. Walters, why
- you're nodding your head *yes*? I'm just wondering.
- MR. WALTERS: Not at all, not at all.
- MR. HUBBARD: Okay.
- THE WITNESS: Oh, I didn't see him. I was
- 25 looking --

- 1 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- \mathbf{Q} . It's okay if you didn't see him or not. I think he's maybe
- 3 subconsciously doing it.
- 4 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. So, I mean, I'm not
- 5 testifying. I think that might be right, but I don't know.
- 6 MR. HUBBARD: Understood.
- 7 THE WITNESS: I'm guessing. My best guess.
- **8** BY MR. HUBBARD:
- $\mathbf{9}$ \mathbf{Q}_{ullet} Okay. Is there an agreement with Forest County Potawanami
- regarding the repricing?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you recall when that agreement was signed?
- 13 A. The first one, in 2011.
- 14 Q. You're saying the first one, so are there more than one?
- 15 A. They have been expanded, I want to say. That might not be
- the right word, but 'cause 2011 was to just strictly
- 17 reprice Medicare Like Rate claims.
- 18 Q. Then when you say Strictly to reprice Medicare Like Rate
- claims, what do you mean?
- 20 A. Because that's all that we -- that's all that we had.
- That's all the knowledge that -- that Little River had to
- reprice uninsured Medicare Like Rate claims, so that's what
- they were repricing for us.
- ${f Q.}$ When you say that that's all that the knowledge you had
- that the Tribe had, I'm trying to understand what you mean.

- 1 A. Okay. Let me rephrase that.
- 2 **Q.** Sure.
- 3 A. That's all that we knew to get repriced was the uninsured
- 4 claims at hospitals for Medicare Like Rates.
- **5 Q.** Is there a reason why that's all that you knew?
- 6 A. Um, the only thing is sometimes when you don't go to area
- meetings, um, where we sometimes had a health director,
- 8 sometimes didn't have a health director, so some meetings
- 9 got attended, some didn't at the area level. And by area
- 10 level I mean our area is Bemidji area in Minnesota, and so
- when we received additional information, then we added on
- the 506 recovery, and then recently third-party billing.
- 13 Q. When you say 506 recovery, what do you mean?
- 14 A. Okay. 506 recovery is because there's no statute of
- limitations for tribes, so we can go back to that magic
- date of July 5th, 2007, and have all those claims repriced,
- including the ones with primary insurance, and so at that
- point, instead of billing for them, because the majority of
- them have already been paid, that's called recovery. And
- so, um, we pulled all the old claims we could find and
- submitted them for recovery, and then Forest County sends
- the letters and notifications to those vendors and -- and
- tries to recover money.
- ${f Q.}$ Is the recovery, let's assume for the moment that Forest
- County does recover money. Where does that money come

- 1 from?
- 2 A. It comes from the hospital.
- **Q.** The medical provider?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Then I'm assuming that Forest County has been successful in
- 6 that endeavor?
- 7 A. Yes.
- $\mathbf{8}$ \mathbf{Q} . Do you or anybody at the PRC program keep a record of what
- 9 claims have and have not been sent to Forest County for 506
- recovery?
- 11 A. There is no written claim. They are sitting in a box, the
- ones that we hand back.
- 13 Q. What do you mean they're sitting in a box?
- 14 A. They're sitting in a box. They're -- when -- if we get a
- check back for those ones, then we highlight them,
- 16 because -- so they don't get pulled again. So we try to
- 17 keep them separated from the rest of the other claims, so
- they're -- they're in their own area in a box, so -- we
- didn't file them back because we didn't want them to get
- repulled by, *Oh*, *hey*, *this didn't get --* so we leave them
- 21 out.
- **22** Q. I'm sorry, I don't understand what you were just trying to
- tell me.
- 24 A. They're in a room, in one of our file rooms, in a locked
- room, where they're kept in a box. They have already been

- submitted for recovery and we receive them back, and that's
- where they're staying. They're not like written down or
- anything, they're just ones that we receive back.
- $\mathbf{4}$ \mathbf{Q} . And you testified earlier that you tried to find all the
- 5 claims that you could find for 506 recovery, to have those
- 6 submitted. Do you recall that testimony?
- 7 A. No.
- f Q. Okay. How did you go about determining what claims to send
- 9 for purposes of 506 recovery to Forest County?
- 10 A. For Forest County for 506 recovery we went through -- from
- 11 2007 forward in everyone's files and pulled all the
- 12 hospital claims and sent them in.
- 13 Q. And that includes for both uninsured and insured
- individuals?
- 15 A. Correct.
- MR. WALTERS: Once we've exhausted the 506
- recovery topic, if we can just take a short break.
- 18 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 19 Q. Ms. Dahlke, you testified earlier that the 506 recovery
- endeavor has been successful, correct?
- 21 A. Thus far, yes.
- 22 Q. Does the hospital make a payment to Forest County or does
- the hospital make a payment directly to the Tribe?
- 24 A. The checks go to Forest County. I have gotten one or two
- from some smaller hospitals, but I just notify them so they

- 1 MR. WALTERS: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: I don't know. All I know is we
- 3 pulled all the -- they were only hospital. No office
- 4 claims, just hospital.
- **5** BY MR. HUBBARD:
- **Q.** Why the distinction between hospital and office claims?
- 7 A. Because Medicare Like Rates only for hospital. Well, until
- 8 this last spring, but, yes, only hospital. Only services
- 9 rendered at a hospital facility.
- 10 Q. In the regular course of business here at the Tribe is it
- 11 the Tribe's regular practice to keep all of the claims from
- hospitals that relate to the PRC program?
- 13 A. Can you say that again?
- 14 Q. In terms of keeping business records here at the Tribe is
- what I'm trying to get at --
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 Q. -- does the Tribe make it its business practice in
- operating the PRC program to keep all of the claims
- received from medical providers other than the clinic?
- 20 A. For PRC?
- 21 Q. Correct.
- 22 A. We keep all of ours, yes. We have to, um, for -- 'cause we
- get audited and stuff every year for our files, and they
- need to the claim and the PO, and they all need to match
- up, so we keep all that.

- ${f 0}$. And it's fair to say you've kept all that information since
- 2 July 5th of 2007?
- 3 A. The -- yes, the majority of it. The -- yes.
- 4 Q. And in the process of submitting claims to Forest County
- 5 relative to the 506 recovery process that you've been
- 6 talking about, are those the claims that you've kept that
- 7 you provided to Forest County?
- 8 A. Yes, we keep those.
- 9 Q. I guess what I'm trying to get at it is sounds like in
- 10 regular business course of practice the Tribe keeps all of
- the claims from providers that it receives that bear upon
- the PRC program, correct?
- 13 A. We have kept the majority of them, yes. PRC can purge
- after seven years, but we've kept all the 5006 recovery
- ones dated back to '07, yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. The claims that the PRC program is actually kept
- since July 5th, 2007, are the same claims that have been
- submitted to Forest County for 506 recovery, correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- \mathbf{Q} . Is the expectation from your perspective that Forest County
- will be repricing each one of those claims in connection
- with the 506 recovery process successfully?
- MR. WALTERS: Object to form.
- MR. HUBBARD: I asked from her perspective.
- MR. WALTERS: I object to the form of the

- 1 Q. Are you copied on those correspondences to hospitals?
- 2 A. No, the -- there's a general letter that Forest County
- 3 generated in the beginning of 506 recovery and Larry signed
- 4 it, the Ogema, and so they use that when they're submitting
- 5 it to. So it's from them on their letterhead, but it's
- 6 also signed by the Ogema showing that he okays -- he's
- 7 okaying them seeking that reimbursement.
- **8 Q.** And you have copies of those letters?
- 9 A. I don't have one on hand, but I'm sure I could probably get
- one. I've seen it, but I haven't -- I don't have a copy of
- it, no. It's just one letter. It's just a simple --
- 12 Q. It's a form letter that's sent to different providers?
- 13 A. Yes. Yes.
- 14 Q. Do you know if in connection with 506 recovery process that
- as to whether claims have been submitted where Blue
- 16 Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan was the primary insurer?
- 17 A. I can't say for specifically, but I'm sure that they were.
- 18 Um, yes, they were, actually.
- 19 Q. How do you know that?
- 20 A. All of them were.
- **Q.** All of them were?
- 22 A. Well, because Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan is used by
- the resort employees, so those get submitted. Um, when --
- 24 all of 'em. Everyone with a primary insurance that has --
- 25 that went -- that had a hospital service was pulled and

- 1 sent.
- \mathbf{Q} . When you say -- you made reference to the casino, correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Are you talking with casino employees that also happen to
- 5 be tribal members or tribal descendants that participate in
- 6 the PRC program?
- 7 A. Yes, that's what --
- 8 Q. Before submitting claims to Forest County in connection
- 9 with the 506 recovery process, you were testifying earlier
- that in connection with the PRC program claims would first
- 11 be submitted to Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And that's because they were the primary insurer and the
- PRC program was the payer of last resort, correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And it's -- I'm assuming it's fair to say that when you
- were undergoing that process that you knew that Blue
- 19 Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan was not paying Medicare Like
- Rates as the primary insurer, correct?
- MR. WALTERS: Object to foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I have no idea if they were or not,
- 'cause I don't know the pricing for that. Like just by
- looking at it, I can't tell that, oh, yeah, that was the
- rate given to them. I wouldn't know, unless it was --

- 1 A. I think there were some sent before in the months prior to
- this, trying to get -- trying to inform tribes of this, but
- 3 it didn't -- I don't recall them all quoting all of the
- 4 Section 506 that I told you about before.
- 5 Q. Earlier you testified that Forest County partner has
- 6 entered into an agreement with the Tribe for repricing and
- 7 also Section 506 recovery, correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- **9 Q.** What is repricing?
- 10 A. Repricing it for Medicare Like Rates, the repricing of the
- 11 claim to Medicare Like Rate.
- 12 Q. And in what context is that done?
- 13 A. I don't know what you mean.
- 14 Q. Sure. I'm trying to get an understanding of how that
- exactly works the repricing. So what I'm trying to get to
- the bottom of is the relationship between Forest County and
- the Tribe, what the Tribe does, what the Forest County does
- in the context of repricing. Does the Tribe provide the
- claim to Forest County and then Forest County reprices it,
- sends it to the provider? I just want to get an
- 21 understanding as to how that works.
- 22 A. Okay.
- MR. WALTERS: Objection to form.
- THE WITNESS: The Little River, this is not every
- Tribe, contracts with another group to reprice our stuff.

- 1 We don't have the software, so we take the claims, just the
- bills, just the claim only, and we make a list and we send
- 3 them secured fax to Forest County. They reprice them on
- 4 their software and they send them back with the repricing
- 5 explanation, and that's how they're processed.
- **6** BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 7 Q. Do you recall when that process first started to take
- 8 place?
- 9 A. In 2011.
- 10 Q. And was that for the repricing of claims for both uninsured
- and insured individuals?
- 12 A. No. It was only uninsured individuals.
- 13 Q. Does Forest County currently reprice claims for the Tribe?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And does Forest County currently reprice claims for the
- 16 Tribe for both uninsured and insured individuals?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And that's different than the 506 recovery process that you
- were testifying about earlier, correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. When is it that the repricing of claims started to occur
- with Forest County for insured individuals?
- 23 A. I want to say 2014, right around there. For everyone,
- 24 2014, early 2015. Without looking back I can't --
- MR. WALTERS: And I'll object as asked and

- **1** answered I. Think you might have answered that earlier.
- THE WITNESS: Yeah, I think I did.
- 3 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 4 Q. If you saw an agreement, would that refresh your
- 5 recollection as to when that actually started to occur?
- 6 A. I don't know.
- 7 \mathbf{Q}_{\bullet} Let me ask it a different way. Was there a separate
- 8 agreement that was signed with Forest County that was the
- 9 date upon which the repricing started to occur for insured
- individuals?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. So is it that an agreement was already in place in the
- 13 Tribe consistent with the agreement that was already in
- place started sending to Forest County both uninsured and
- 15 insured claims?
- 16 A. Yes.
- ${f Q}$. And you think that that happened sometime in 2014 or
- **18** early 2015?
- MR. WALTERS: Objection, asked and answered.
- THE WITNESS: That's approximate. I don't have a
- 21 definite for that day, but, yeah.
- 22 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 23 Q. Did you ever communicate with anybody about that?
- 24 A. About what?
- 25 Q. About the fact that the Tribe was starting to send over

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Copy of your driver's license. Do you see that?
- 3 A. Yes, I do.
- **4 Q.** Okay. The next one is *Copy of all insurance cards*. Do you
- **5** see that?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 Q. So was this application available in 2010, or a form of
- 8 this application available in 2010 that tribal members
- 9 would fill out?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. And in 2010 did the PRC program require copies of
- 12 all insurance cards at that time?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And if a tribal member or tribal descendant was
- participating in the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan
- plan, would the PRC program require a copy of a Blue
- 17 Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan insurance card?
- 18 A. Yes.
- **19 Q.** Does the Tribe have those on file still?
- 20 A. What year are you looking for? Possibly.
- 21 Q. Is there a time by which the Tribe had it on file but
- appeared in which the Tribe has gotten rid of them?
- 23 A. Yes. According to IHS, PRC only has to keep our
- documentations and claims for seven years.
- 25 Q. But in the context of claims, you've kept them all since

- 1 July 5th of 2007, correct?
- 2 A. Just the hospital ones.
- **Q.** In connection with this lawsuit has anybody ever asked you
- 4 to provide to them a copy of the claims that have been
- submitted by the Tribe to Forest County for 506 recovery?
- 6 A. We -- yeah, we've provided copies, but it wasn't just for
- 7 506 recovery, it was just claims.
- **8 Q**. What do you mean?
- 9 A. Claims, like tribal member claims. That tribal members
- 10 that were signed up for PRC that may have used a hospital
- 11 claim. That was -- I don't know if they were all submitted
- for 506 or -- offhand, but, yeah.
- 13 Q. So did you provide all of the claims since July 5th of
- 14 2007? Is that what you're saying?
- 15 A. Yes.
- **16 Q**. And --
- 17 A. Or I don't know the exact date, how far back, no. I don't
- think they went -- I think they went back to 2008.
- **19 Q.** To whom did you provide those to?
- 20 A. Shane and Rebecca.
- **Q.** Who's Shane and Rebecca?
- 22 A. Shane and Rebecca, the legal staff.
- 23 Q. And can you tell me the dates or the month that you
- **24** provided those?
- 25 A. I believe it was toward the end of August. Yes, it was

- just me and two other people at the time. I was short two
- people then. It was the list of requirements from Blue
- 3 Cross/Blue Shield, so we were sent that and we pulled what
- 4 we could find and gave them to our attorneys, and I'm
- 5 assuming they transferred them to you.
- 6 Q. When you say the list of requirements from Blue Cross/Blue
- *Shield*, what do you mean?
- 8 A. Okay, list of requirements might not have been the right --
- 9 Q. No, it's okay, I'm not trying to be difficult.
- MR. WALTERS: Yeah. And I want to be very careful
- 11 here. If you've you got a document from the Tribe's legal
- counsel saying these are the things we want you to track
- down, that's an attorney/client privileged communication,
- and you ought not testify about that. If there's some other
- 15 Blue Cross/Blue Shield document or something like that that
- you're talking about, obviously you can testify about that.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Well, I can't honestly remember it
- 18 was strictly from then or if it was transferred from Blue
- 19 Cross/Blue Shield to me.
- 20 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 21 Q. Let me ask it this way. The document that you saw, did it
- have on the front of it --
- 23 If we could introduce this as Deposition Exhibit
- Number 4. Thank you.
- 25 (At 12:46 p.m. Off-the-record discussion.)

- 1 (Deposition Exhibit Number 4 marked.)
- 2 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- \mathbf{Q} . The document that you saw, the first page of the document
- 4 that was given to you, did it have something similar to
- 5 that on it?
- 6 A. No.
- **Q.** Was it an email communication that you received?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Did the email communication that you received have an
- 10 attachment to it?
- 11 A. I don't recall.
- ${f Q}$. Do you recall when you received the request from your
- counsel?
- MR. WALTERS: Objection, asked and answered. We
- have covered this.
- 16 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 17 Q. I think we've covered the date upon which she provided it,
- 18 which was late in August. I want to know the date that it
- 19 was actually requested that you provided.
- MR. WALTERS: Okay. Fair enough.
- THE WITNESS: I don't know how much -- I think
- early August. We had less than 30 days, I believe, I don't
- remember. It was on a timeline.
- 24 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- Q. Understood. I'm going to introduce another copy of a

- document. Mark this as Exhibit Number 5.
- 2 (Deposition Exhibit Number 5 marked.)
- **3** BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 4 Q. Ms. Dahlke --
- 5 A. Hm-hmm.
- **Q.** -- have you ever seen this document before?
- 7 A. Yes.
- **8 Q**. And do you understand what it is?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. Can you please tell me what it is?
- 11 A. It's our agreement with Forest County Potawanami.
- 12 Q. When you were testifying earlier regarding the repricing of
- 13 claims --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- with Forest County Potawanami consistent with an
- agreement, is this the agreement that you were talking
- **17** about?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And you testified earlier that there was a time by which
- 20 underneath this agreement that you -- that PRC program
- 21 started to submit both uninsured and insured claims,
- 22 correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- **Q.** And that was done underneath this agreement?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Do you know, Ms. Dahlke, if this particular agreement is
- 2 still in effect with Forest County?
- 3 A. The agreement is still in effect. Um, I believe it's been
- 4 amended. I wouldn't have the latest copy for the 506
- 5 recovery and to include third-party billing.
- 6 Q. When you say to include third-party billing, what do you
- 7 mean?
- 8 A. I mean that Forest County, those are the services they
- 9 provide, so it's all in one agreement.
- 10 Q. Is third-party billing different than repricing and 506
- recovery?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Can you tell me what that is?
- 14 A. Not really. I'm not a biller.
- 15 Q. Okay. Do you know what it relates to, at least?
- 16 A. The clinic services.
- **17 Q.** Okay.
- 18 A. For direct care.
- 19 Q. For direct care?
- 20 A. Hm-hmm.
- 21 (Deposition Exhibit Number 6 marked.)
- 22 BY MR. HUBBARD:
- 23 Q. Ms. Dahlke, I've handed you a document that's been marked
- as Dahlke number 6. Do you recognize this document?
- 25 A. I think so. It looks like one of the amended, yes. It's

- 1 an MLRN recovery.
- 2 Q. Is this the document that you referred to earlier as what
- 3 you thought might be an amended version of the 2011
- 4 repricing agreement?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And is it your understanding that this particular document
- 7 that's been marked as Dahlke Exhibit Number 6 covers both
- **8** repricing and 506 recovery?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. I'd like for you to please turn to provision 9.1, which is
- titled Notice to parties?
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. And it says To Program Sponsor, and it says Attention:
- 14 Gina. Is that your maiden name that's there?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. And is that your signature?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Have you ever received any sort of notices or
- communications under this agreement at all because it's
- supposed to be sent to your attention?
- 21 A. Any what? Have I received any, what did you say?
- 22 Q. Notices or communications underneath this agreement?
- Because it would appear to me that any such notice or
- communications are to go to your attention.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 A. Okay.
- **Q.** And can you please look at section 1(a) there?
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. Where it says Upon execution of this agreement. Do you see
- 5 that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. It says the The Tribe shall provide to Forest County
- 8 Potawanami Insurance Department, it says FCPID for short?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Files for claims eligible for Medicare Like Rates for
- 11 Medicare Health Care Service?
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- 13 Q. It goes on to say At any time while this agreement is in
- 14 effect, the Tribe may submit claims to be audited from July
- 15 5th, 2007, to the present year pursuant to the terms of
- this agreement. Do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Earlier, when you testified that you provided to Forest
- 19 County claims since July 5th of 2007, were you doing that
- because of this particular agreement?
- 21 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Subparagraph C says FCPID shall conduct an audit of the
- claims files to determine whether any overpayments were
- made. Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And then it says They shall determine if the appropriate
- 2 Medicare Like Rate was paid, and if not, request
- 3 reimbursement from the provider for the amount that exceeds
- 4 the Medicare Like Rates. Do you see that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Are you aware whether or not any such audit ever took
- 7 place?
- 8 A. That's what they do when I send a claim to them.
- **9 Q**. Okay.
- 10 A. They audit it and then submit it with that letter, and then
- they get the checks back and forward them to us.
- 12 Q. And you have copies of all those communications?
- 13 A. Of all the checks and the invoices, yes, I do.
- 14 Q. Okay. And then it says, in subparagraph E, FCPID will
- 15 complete the audit and provide the detailed accounting of
- the audit to the Tribe in writing, including the results of
- the audit, within 180 days of FCPID's receipt from the
- Tribe of the files to be audited. Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Have you ever seen a of the detailed accounting of the
- audit that Forest County has performed on behalf of the
- **22** Tribe?
- 23 A. Yes. They submit those with every check, and then they
- just keep compiling and adding on.
- 25 Q. So when the PRC program made the decision to provide all of

- the claims since July 5th of 2007 to Forest County, did
- 2 you -- did the PRC program or did you do that all at once
- 3 like on a single day? How was that process undertaken?
- 4 A. We started going through all the files, pulling all of the
- old claims. We boxed them up via Fed Ex, 'cause you can't
- fax you that that stuff, so we were send them express via
- Fed Ex. That's how -- and a little at a time, because
- 8 there wasn't a box big enough, so we would just send them a
- 9 box every day at the beginning, then it was every week, and
- then now it's just only a few at a time.
- 11 Q. There's only a few at a time, 'cause it's only for those
- 12 claims that are coming in for new medical services that
- were rendered?
- 14 A. Those get faxed.
- 15 Q. Understood.
- 16 A. The recovery ones are just the older ones that have already
- 17 been paid.
- $oldsymbol{Q}$. Is the PRC program still going through files to find
- **19** additional claims?
- 20 A. Yeah, we do. We constantly are double checking ourselves.
- We try to do that, so every time we're in a file I or my
- staff we just like if you're flipping through it's like,
- oh, hey, then we double check to see if it's been sent out
- and we just try to double check ourselves, there's only
- like this much more to send out, we don't.